

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:740

ANSWERED ON:03.03.2008

RESTRICTIONS ON INSTALLATION OF CELLULAR TOWERS

Panda Shri Prabodh

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of mushrooming of cellular towers in the cities and towns in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to issue safety guidelines to limit public exposure to radio waves from the base stations;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Union Government is planning to ban the installation of cellular towers near schools, hospitals and the rooftops of large residential buildings; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof;

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

- (a) To meet the growth of the mobile services, adequate infrastructure/towers are necessary in the country.
- (b) & (c) The latest Fact Sheet No. 304 of May, 2006 of World Health Organisation (WHO) states that from all evidence accumulated so far, no adverse short or long-term health effects have been shown to occur from the RF signals produced by the base stations. Further, a committee was setup under the Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), as per the orders of Hon'ble High Court, Mumbai, to study the effects of radiations from mobile phone towers and related aspects. The Committee has studied the effects and concluded that overall there is not enough evidence to show direct health hazards of RF exposures from mobile base stations.
- (d) & (e) Do not arise, in view of above.